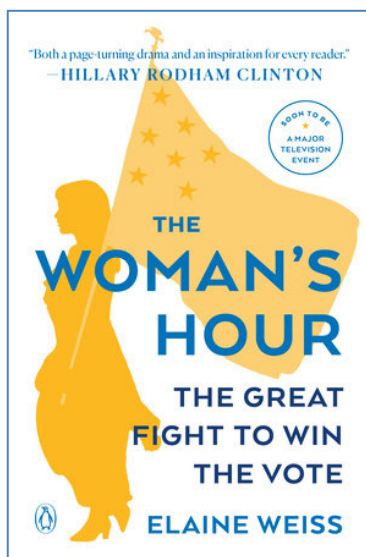
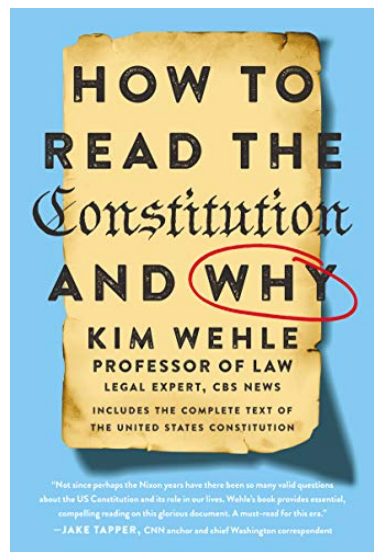
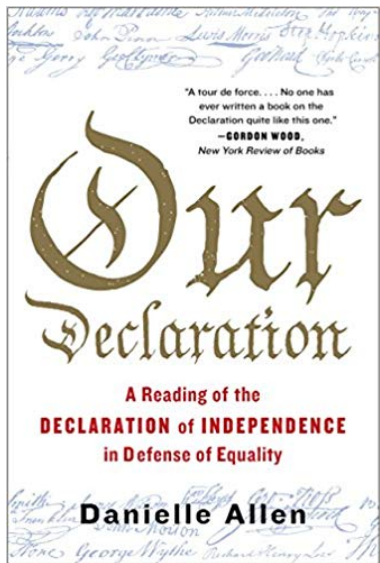
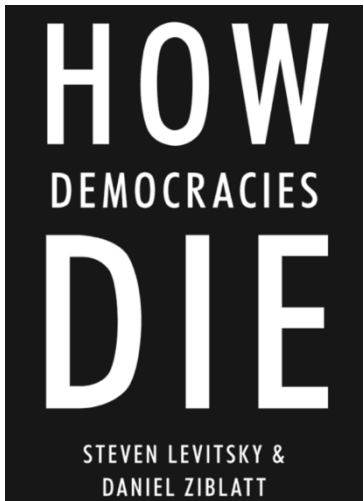
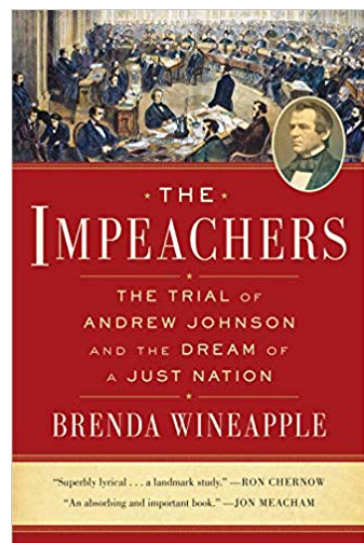
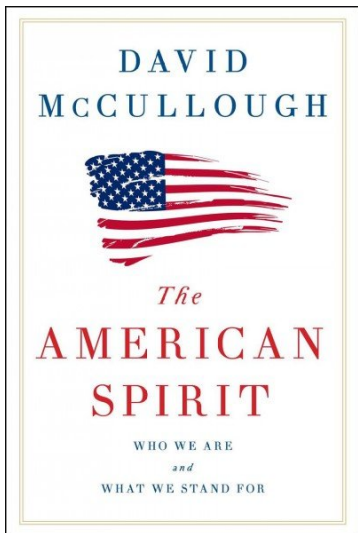
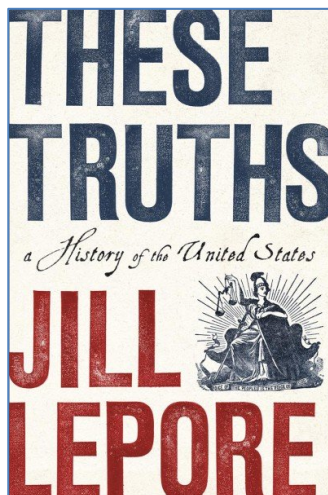
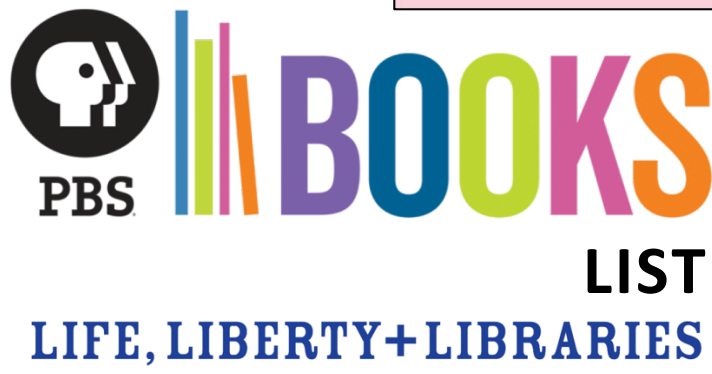
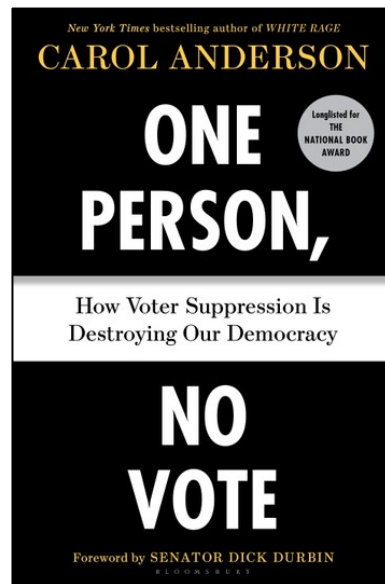


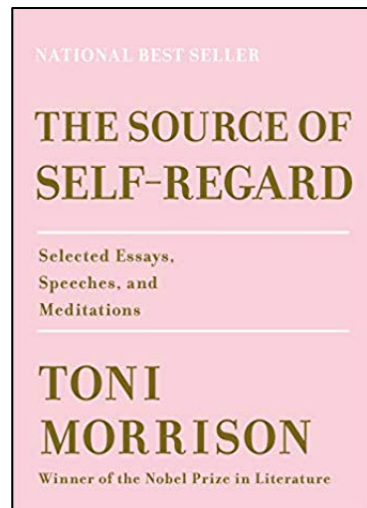
READ



EXPLORE

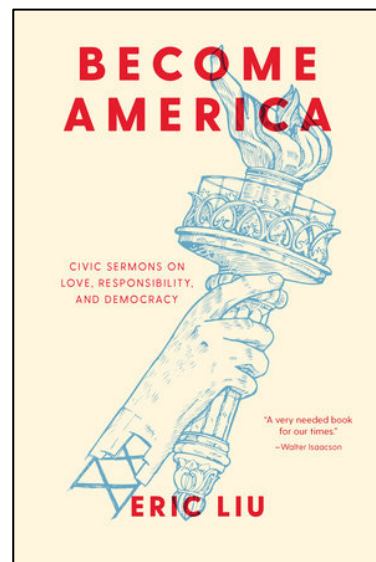


DEMOCRACY



Florida
HUMANITIES

2020





SUGGESTED READING LIST

U.S. DEMOCRACY: 2020 marks an important year for U.S. democracy. This year, America will celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, officially granting women the right to vote, and our nation will elect our 46th president. Throughout 2020, and in advance of America's 250th anniversary in 2026 known as the "Semiquincentennial," PBS will provide quality programming to highlight what it means to be an engaged citizen in a democratic nation. For a successful democracy, civic engagement is crucial; "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" depends upon it. We hope these books will inspire understanding, voting, and engaged citizenship.

The American Spirit: Who We Are and What We Stand For

<<David McCullough

Written by the most revered US historian of our time, McCullough (winner of two Pulitzer Prizes, two National Book Awards, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom) shares a collection of his insightful and inspirational speeches that remind us of the fundamental American principles. McCullough's *1776* also offers an important narrative of America's beginning, which is a perfect addition to this list.

Our Declaration: A Reading of the Declaration of Independence in Defense of Equality

<<Danielle S. Allen
A seminal work, this book reinterprets the promise of American democracy in the Declaration of Independence. The author reflects on her personal experiences and uses the text to empower Americans today to strive for political equality and individual liberty.

The Impeachers: The Trial of Andrew Johnson and the Dream of a Just Nation.

<< Brenda Wineapple

This book details the tremendous struggle of the Union after the Civil War when Vice-President Johnson became the "Accidental President" following the assassination of Lincoln. The author portrays President Johnson's 1868 Impeachment Trial, the events that led to trial, and the extraordinary figures that brought the idea forward. It provides insight into this country's first impeachment proceedings and the importance of checks and balances.

How to Read the Constitution and Why

<<Kim Wehle

As a Law Professor and Expert for CBS News, Wehle explains the Constitution in common sense language, provides insights, and outlines how the three branches of government work. The book also examines the individual rights that the Constitution protects and ensures.

How Democracies Die

<<Steven Levitsky & Daniel Ziblatt

Harvard professors Levitsky and Ziblatt have studied democracies for the last 20 years. Based on their research, they explore historical breakdowns of democracies from 1930s in Europe to present day. The book discusses how democracies die and perspectives on how a democracy can be saved.

The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win

<< Elaine Weiss

This book chronicles one of the greatest political battles in US history—the ratification of the 19th Amendment that granted women the right to vote. The author follows several remarkable women in their fight and chronicles how women won their freedom to vote.

One Person, No Vote: How Voter Suppression Is Destroying Our Democracy

<< Carol Anderson

This book explores the decline in African American voter participation since a 2013 Supreme Court ruling, which effaced the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Award-winning *New York Times* best-selling author, Anderson recounts the narrative of the racial discrimination that various states adopted, which led to voter suppression.

These Truths: A History of the United States.

<< Jill Lepore

Centering on our nation's history, this *New York Times* bestseller uses facts and evidence to explore the truths as described by Thomas Jefferson: political equality, natural rights, and sovereignty of the people.

The Source of Self-Regard: Selected Essays, Speeches, and Meditations

<<Toni Morrison

One of the most revered authors of our time, Morrison offers a compilation of her most significant essays and speeches in this book, spanning four decades. As a Pulitzer Prize and Nobel Prize in Literature winner, Morrison uses her words and reflections to examine American culture, freedom, and human rights. This book provides a legacy of literary elegance, intellectual prowess and spiritual depth.

Become America: Civic Sermons on Love, Responsibility, and Democracy

<<Eric Liu

In this collection, the author explores nearly 20 current and timeless topics about democracy, liberty, equal justice, and powerful citizenship, as he aims to activate citizenship. This inspiring book will energize its readers to get involved and rekindle a love for civic engagement.

This list was created in partnership with Florida Humanities as part of :

